

**KALHD Board of Directors/Annual Meeting
Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2021**

Board Member Attendees

Aften Gardner, President
Destany Wheeler, President-Elect
Jason Tiller, Past-President
Dan Partridge, Secretary-Treasurer & KAC Representative
Jennifer Cure, District 1 Alternate (joined 10:12 am)
Paula Bitter, District 2 Representative
Tammy Von Busch, District 3 Representative
Dr. Sanmi Areola, District 3 Alternate
Diedre Serene, District 5 Representative
Lynnette Redington, District 5 Alternate
Betha Elliott, District 6 Representative
Arlene Doll, Member-at-Large #1 (joined 10:22 am)

Non-Board Attendees

Dennis Kriesel (KALHD)
Diana Parke
Rita McKoon
Angie Kahle
AAron Davis (CPHI)
Cristi Cain (KDHE)
Karen Winkelman
Dana Rickley

Call to order

Aften called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Board roll call

Dennis ran through a roll call of online board members. He confirmed a quorum was present.

Approval of agenda

Tammy moved to approve the agenda. Diedre seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of February 2021 minutes

Dan moved to approve the February 2021 minutes with the amendment of changing the listed district for Paula Bitter from 4 to 2. Aften seconded. Motion passed.

Monthly financial report: February 2021

Dan walked through the February 2021 financial report.

Jason moved to receive and place on file the February 2021 financial report. Tammy seconded. Motion passed.

KDHE updates

Cristi Cain gave the KDHE update. She noted Monday, March 22nd, vaccine Phase 3 and Phase 4 would start simultaneously. She also noted yesterday was the due-date for the aid-to-local grants. Governor's Public Health Conference is March 30-April 1 and Cristi explained the logistics of it.

Cristi talked about public health heroes; she explained the survey process and how that is used for the Governor to highlight. Cristi is looking for other ways to highlight and requested suggestions on that. She also noted Rebecca Adamson is now a public health nurse with KDHE, covering the southeast and south-central regions.

Lynnette thanked Cristi for being available during the prior weekend.

Aften said she was excited for the KDHE/KALHD/KAC letter in support of ELC funding. Cristi spoke about how that got developed.

Bylaws change review

Dennis explained the draft bylaws changes he was proposing to be put before the membership at the KALHD Mid-Year Meeting. All changes were language clean-up except two:

- 1) In Article V, Section 3, removal of the expectation that the board sign the governance guidelines. That has been challenging to achieve and it seems reasonable just to plan to go over them (as was done in January).
- 2) In Article V, Section 6, define the start of board member terms on January 1st so that they run along calendar years. This changes from the current annual meeting to annual meeting definition which has proven problematic given the annual meeting isn't always in the same month as the prior one.

Dennis asked for board members to review these changes and let him know of any other adjustments they might want to see. If nothing else changes he'd like the board to vote at the next meeting to put these revisions before the membership.

Aften and Jason expressed support for the changes.

KAC update – if any

Dan noted this morning KAC emailed their listserv to announce a couple webinars around the American Rescue Plan. He mentioned the ELC letter KAC supported and that the KAC newsletter did state you did not need a mask if you were vaccinated which does not align with public health recommendations so health departments need to be aware commissioners may start expecting this.

Executive Director's Report

Dennis ran through his written executive director's report.

Aften thanked him for explaining the legislative activity.

Open discussion

Tammy asked about moving into Phase 3 and 4 and the vaccine being based on medical condition, she wanted to know if people need to bring a doctor's note or what to prove their status. Cristi said her opinion was that a doctor's note may be an unrealistic expectation but was not aware if KDHE's immunization program had an official position. Dennis suggested bringing in the prescription (such as a bottle) with the name on it. Sanmi noted that in Johnson County they allow a lot of options such as doctors' notes or bringing in the medication, but the screening isn't set to be arduous. Jason said they aren't planning to ask people to bring proof of their condition, agreeing with Sanmi that the goal is to get people vaccinated.

Dennis asked about the new, federal March funding, for vaccines and for public health infrastructure, and if KDHE has been discussing it. Cristi said those talks have started but are just preliminary. A large discussion ensued regarding state and federal funding. Dennis also noted a bill that eliminates the tax lid is going to the Governor's desk.

Betha brought up the MCH grant and that there have been several concerns with the current application. Cristi noted that is in another bureau but that LHDs have historically found it challenging. Betha said one LHD administrator referred to it as a John Steinbeck novel. Rita McKoon noted the current version is 29 pages long. Lynnette said they dropped participating in the MCH grant this year. Destiny noted the amount of funding for the workload makes no real sense; she isn't dropping it yet but would consider it. Arlene said they dropped it years ago. Betha said it is more like gathering data for the state and referring people versus functioning as a front-line to help people as it historically was. Tammy noted their struggles with the bureau overseeing MCH and their push for Delivering Change to be in all counties and postulated that may relate to the new application format.

Dennis noted SB 212, an immunization bill, now has a hearing on Monday (3/22) and that he will send out details given it was a bill many LHDs opposed last year.

Adjournment

Aften adjourned the meeting at 11:22 am.